



Lake Park Villager

The official village newsletter of Lake Park, North Carolina

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May 2009

CLERK'S CORNER

Upcoming Lake Park town meetings:

June 9 – 7:00 PM Village Council Meeting

June 22 – 7:00 PM Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting

June 25 – 6:30 PM Economic Development Commission at 3316 Faith Church Rd

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

LAKE PARK HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION MEETING

JUNE 2, 7:00 PM, COMMUNITY CENTER

LAKE PARK SINGLES (AGES 45+)

JUNE 4, 7:00 PM, COMMUNITY CENTER

LAKE PARK SAGES

JUNE 12, 6:00 PM, FAITH UMC

LAKE PARK GARDEN CLUB

JUNE 15, 6:00 PM, COMMUNITY CENTER, INDOOR PICNIC

LAKE PARK PLUS (INVESTMENT STUDY – MEMBER NAIC)

JUNE 24, 7:00 PM, 3825 FAITH CHURCH RD

4TH OF JULY FESTIVAL

JULY 4, 12:00 PM, RUSSELL PARK

LAKE PARK POOLS HOURS

MON. – SAT. 10 AM – 8 PM; SUN. NOON – 8 PM

2009-2010 Budget Passes

Details on budget changes for the next fiscal year

Over the past month, the Lake Park Council has been working to assemble a budget for the 2009-2010 fiscal year. For the next budget year, the village has a significant drop in projected revenues, mostly due to the current state of the economy. The economy is causing a lower projected ad valorem tax amount and about \$50,000 less in sales and use tax for the village.

The expense side of the budget has been affected as well. Union County Sheriff's office has increased the rate for the two deputies by a total of \$17,000 and garbage collection has gone up by \$16,000. Other large budget items, such as landscaping, remained constant due to long-term contracts.

To try to balance the budget, the council cut several items such as seasonal decorations and National Night Out. However, those cuts were not sufficient to balance the budget. The Council thought that it was important to maintain the current level of service provided by the Village as well as maintaining our common areas. Therefore, the budget includes a

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To All Veterans

The Village of Lake Park would like to recognize the veterans who have served to protect the freedoms that we enjoy today in our country and celebrate on Independence Day. So, on July 4th, the Village Council invites all veterans to join the annual Lake Park Parade around Russell Park. Parade participants will meet in the Community Center parking lot at 11:45 AM. The parade will begin at 12:00 and will follow Creft Circle around Russell Park.

8th Annual 4th of July Festival

The Lake Park Parks and Recreation Commission will be hosting the 4th of July Festival in Russell Park. The festivities will begin at 12:00 with a parade. All children are invited to decorate their bicycles or tricycles and join the parade. Between 12:30 and 3:00, hot dogs and chips will be available for purchase for only \$.50 in addition to free watermelon. A DJ will provide musical entertainment for everyone in attendance. During the Festival, the Council will also recognize the 2009 Lake Park Hometown Heroes.

Lake Park Village Government

Website: www.lakeparknc.gov

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Deputy Richard Haywood and Deputy Joe Clough

Dial 911, Non-emergency (704) 289-1591

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For Your Information

Waste Collection

Thanks to all who have made the changeover to clear bags for any bagged materials that are set out for pickup outside of the rolling cart or recycling bins. The clear bags ensure that Lake Park yard debris is not intermingled with garbage or trash. Summer Tip: furniture, garden dirt, construction debris are not included in the Village waste collection contract. Contact Action Garbage at 704-821-7578 for these and other unusual pick up items. See www.lakeparknc.gov for detailed Lake Park collection guidelines.

Storm Drain and Catch Basin Care Urged

With the onset of warm weather in Lake Park, residents are busy taking care of their lawn. However, yard waste should be kept away from storm drains and catch basins. These drains are designed to carry water away from residences. However, grass and other yard waste can quickly block or impede the water flow in the drainage system. The result is flooding like that experienced recently on Fennel St. With care, the village can avoid costly repairs and ensure that the village storm drain system prevents flooding.

\$.02 increase in the tax rate to \$.23 per \$100 assessed value.

During the regular May meeting, the Council approved the budget as presented. The budget can be viewed on the Village web site (www.lakeparknc.gov). There is a link on the front page in a section titled "Village Web Site Updates".

The Council has also set up a Stormwater Fee for fiscal year 2009-2010. During this year, each private residence will be assessed a flat \$30.00 fee and each commercial property \$200.00. Since Lake Park falls under the Stormwater Phase II provisions, the Village must comply with the EPA rules applicable to this program. One of those regulations is establishing a municipal franchise for stormwater that will not be funded out of the normal ad valorem taxes. Therefore, this fee must be levied in order for the village to remain in compliance with this law and to avoid significant financial penalties. Stormwater fees will be included as a separate fee on all 2009-2010 property tax bills, and it is due and payable upon receipt.

Stormwater Education

Why should we be concerned about pet waste?

Many people may be unaware of the serious impact that pet waste can have on our local waterways. Pet waste left in yards or in parks allow rain to carry bacteria into storm drains that empty into the many ponds around the village. Fecal contamination impairs the quality of the water. This contamination can find its way into the drinking water reservoirs in the county and dump parasites and microorganisms such as roundworms and E.coli into our drinking water supply. The best way to pick up after your pet is to dispose of the waste in a plastic bag in the trash. The Village Council is concerned about this health hazard. Therefore, the Public Parks Ordinance has a provision that makes it unlawful for anyone to fail to remove their pet's feces from any Village Park. Violators can be issued a citation that will carry a \$50 fee.

Economic Development News

Central Academy at Lake Park Commencement

The 2009 graduating seniors will receive their high school diplomas at the 10:00 am ceremony held at the Academy on Friday, May 22. Dr. William Kamm, Assistant professor of elementary education in the Helen DeVos School of Education at Lee University, and founding administrator at Lake Park Academy, will present the keynote address. Lake Park Academy's first graduating class commenced in 2008. 2009 is the first graduating class since Central Church purchased the Academy.